

Department of the Interior National Park Service

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George Washington Memorial Parkway News Release

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For Immediate Release

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National Park Service Announces 45-Day Comment Period and Public Information Meetings on the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Rehabilitation of the North Section of the George Washington Memorial Parkway

McLean, VA -The National Park Service (NPS) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) are pleased to announce the release of the draft George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) North Section Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment/Assessment of Effect. The proposal includes improvements to the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) from Spout Run to Interstate 495 in Arlington and Fairfax counties. The draft EA will be available for a 45-day public comment period beginning March 10, 2008 through April 23, 2008 and is available for review at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gwmp. In addition, the NPS will hold two public information meetings related to the draft EA. One will be held on March 27, 2008, from 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. at the McLean Community Center at 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean, Virginia. Another meeting will be held on April 3, 2008, from 4:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. at the GWMP Headquarters in Turkey Run Park at 700 George Washington Memorial Parkway in McLean, VA.

Interested parties are urged to provide comments electronically via the website address above or in writing to Mr. David Vela, Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Turkey Run Park, McLean, Virginia 22101. In addition, printed copies of the draft EA will be made available for public review at the GWMP Headquarters at 700 George Washington Memorial Parkway, in McLean, VA; several Arlington County libraries (specifically Central Library, Cherrydale Library Aurora Highlands and Westover Library); and several Fairfax County libraries (specifically Dolley Madison Library, Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, Great Falls Library, and the City of Fairfax Regional Library).

PAGE 1 OF 2 EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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Proposed work outlined in the EA includes the repaving of existing roadway, the construction of a curb and gutter system to improve drainage, guard wall improvements, and the reconfiguration of the interchange at Route 123/GWMP. The draft Environmental Assessment (EA) includes an analysis of the potential impacts of the alternatives (including the No-Action Alternative) on the human environment. The NPS and FHWA encourage public participation in the decision process, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

For more information about the draft EA or the park, contact George Washington Memorial Parkway at 703-289-2500 or www.nps.gov/gwmp.

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